

T.H. Historic Bldg Sites



T.H. star 9/6/66

WALLS TUMBLE—Exterior destruction of the Fairbanks Block building at the northwest corner of Seventh Street and Wabash Avenue, was begun Sunday. Until weeks ago the landmark, erected in 1885, played a constant role in Terre Haute commerce. Hook's Drug Store was located there for the last 40 years. The site will become a parking lot.



T.H. Star 5/31/68

LANDMARK TO GO—Property on the southeast corner of seventh and Ohio streets, one of the old landmarks of the city, part of which was built around the time of the Civil War, is to be torn down. Sold Feb. 2, 1968, by Foulkes Realty Co., Clark Foulkes and his sister, Mrs. Mildred Anderson, El Paso, Tex., the property is to be torn down and the land used for other purposes by House Properties, Inc., John House, president, new owners. It comprises the Husted Hotel, four apartment buildings and five storerooms. (Photo by Bruce).

T.H. Historic Bldg. Sites

Will Raze Historic Fairbanks Block

T. H. Trib. 8/23/66.

By CHARLES CREMER

Exterior destruction of the Fairbanks Block building, historic downtown Terre Haute landmark at the northwest corner of 7th St. and Wabash Ave., is expected to begin the first week of September.

Razing of the structure has already started inside the building, with workmen removing materials that can be salvaged. Indiana Wrecking Co. Inc. has the contract for the demolition.

The site will be leveled and made into a street-level parking facility.

Workmen indicated the exterior demolition will begin at the northeast corner of the building where Readmore Book Store, last remaining tenant, is located. Walls will be knocked inward and debris trucked away from that corner to cause a minimum of inconvenience to downtown traffic and to trucking operations in the alley between the building and the Post Office.

Destruction and leveling is expected to take about five weeks.

The building has had a continuous commercial history in downtown Terre Haute since its

Continued On Page 2, Col. 6.



TAKE A LAST LOOK, FOLKS!—This is the Fairbanks Block building at Seventh St. and Wabash Ave. as it appeared today. Wreckers will start work on the old business block in another day or two and expect to complete the job in five weeks. Offices in the upper stories have been closed for a year and businesses on the street level have been moving out for several weeks. The corner is slated to become a parking lot.



Raze Historic Fairbanks Block Soon

Continued From Page One.

construction in 1885. It was originally known as the McKean Block.

Early Occupants

The west end of the McKean Block was a building which occupied the space now known as the west half of the Fairbanks Block. The first occupants were J. R. Duncan Co., paper wholesaler; George Zimmerman, tinsmith whose trade mark was a giant tin coffee pot of one-barrel capacity advertising his place of business; and Barker & Alvey, wholesale liquor distributors.

In the early days, Joseph Madison's Oak Hall Drug Store was located in the ground-level space on the corner of 7th St. and Wabash Ave., and the drug concern was operated for many years by the late Conrad Herber.

Hook's Drug Store continued the drug store tradition, and operated from that corner location for nearly 40 years, dating back to the late 1920's until the closing on July 16 of this year.

Other old time ground level tenants during the earlier history of the building were S. Levi's Dry Goods, Robinson & Sons notions, and later, the Greek Candy Kitchen, Wood Posey Shoe Store, Thorman & Schloss Clothing, and Postal Telegraph.

Was Plush Saloon

Real old timers can recall when the part of the building now occupied by Readmore Book Store was "The Hermann" remembered as one of the plush saloons in Terre Haute. Postal Telegraph was a later tenant at that location during prohibition.

The second floor of the three-story building was for many years the home of the Fort Harrison Club, a club which was originated in 1881 and was not disbanded until after the death of W. R. McKean in 1913.

Subsequently, second floor office spaces were maintained by such firms as B. F. Harvey, insurance; F. F. Keith, grain dealer, and Dr. F. E. Gillett, dentist.

Later second floor tenants included the law firms of Raymond J. Kearns, and Everett & Everett, the latter having occupied the office set up by the late George Wells.

Center for Physicians

Physicians who had quarters in the building included Dr. Coen Luckett, who succeeded his father, the late Dr. D. R. Luckett, and through that association was thought to have been the oldest tenant in length of time for one office before the office was moved in 1933; the late Dr. D. R. Ulmer and Dr. V. A. Shanklin. Dr. W. G. Torrence was among the dentists who had offices on the upper floors.

Household Finance and Welfare Finance also had offices in the building, as did the American Optical Co., the United Press, and there were several beauty shops located on the second floor.

During the earliest history of the building the entire third floor was for a long time the lodge rooms of one of the Masonic orders and Masonic Hall.

The building survived two major fires.

The first, in 1914, nearly destroyed the building, but it was reconstructed.

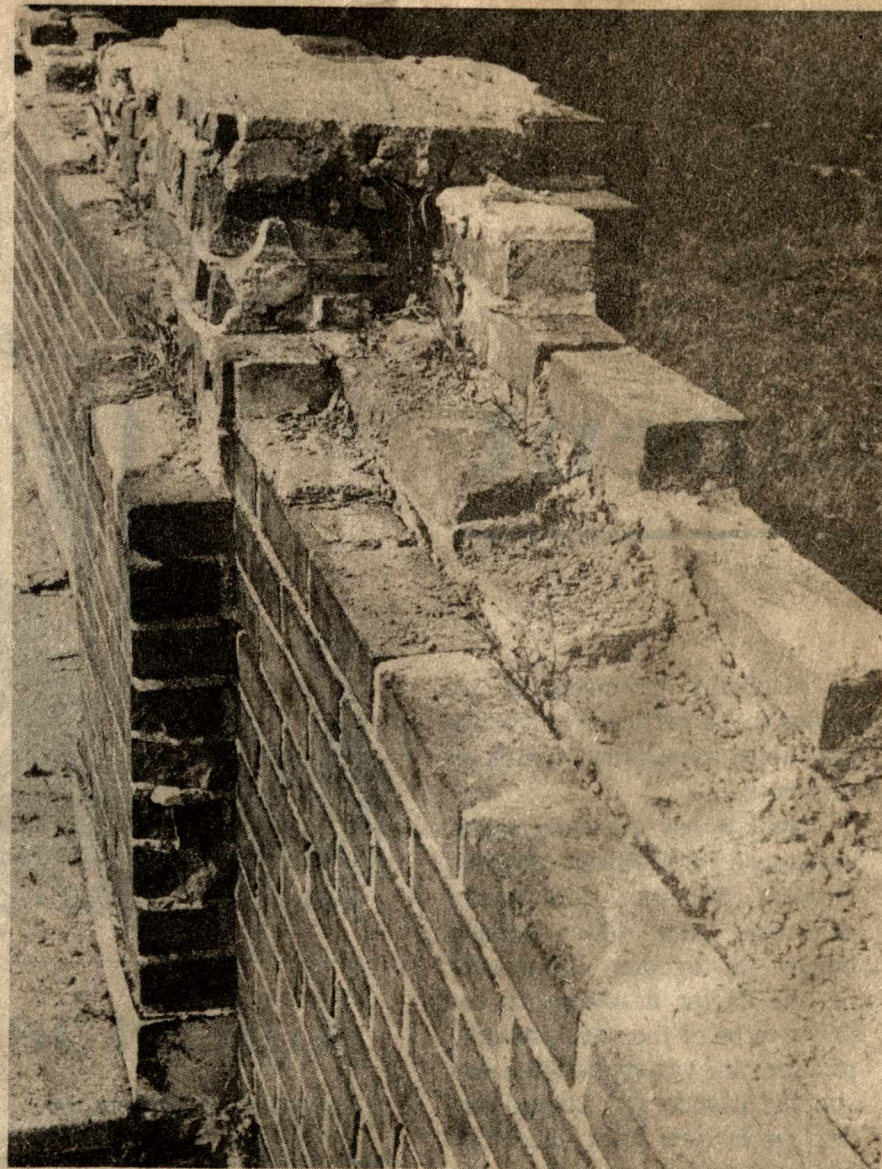
The second, Jan. 12, 1963, severely damaged the upper sections, and tenants from the upper floors relocated following that fire.

Since that time, the top floors had remained vacant and leasing of most of the street level spaces was on a month-to-month basis.

IN GAY NINETIES—The business building at Seventh St. and Wabash Ave. was known as the McKean Block when it was constructed in 1885 and has played a prominent role in the city's circles ever since. It is not known just what year the name of the block was changed from McKean to Fairbanks.

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Historic Landmarks (7A) The Sta



Community Affairs File

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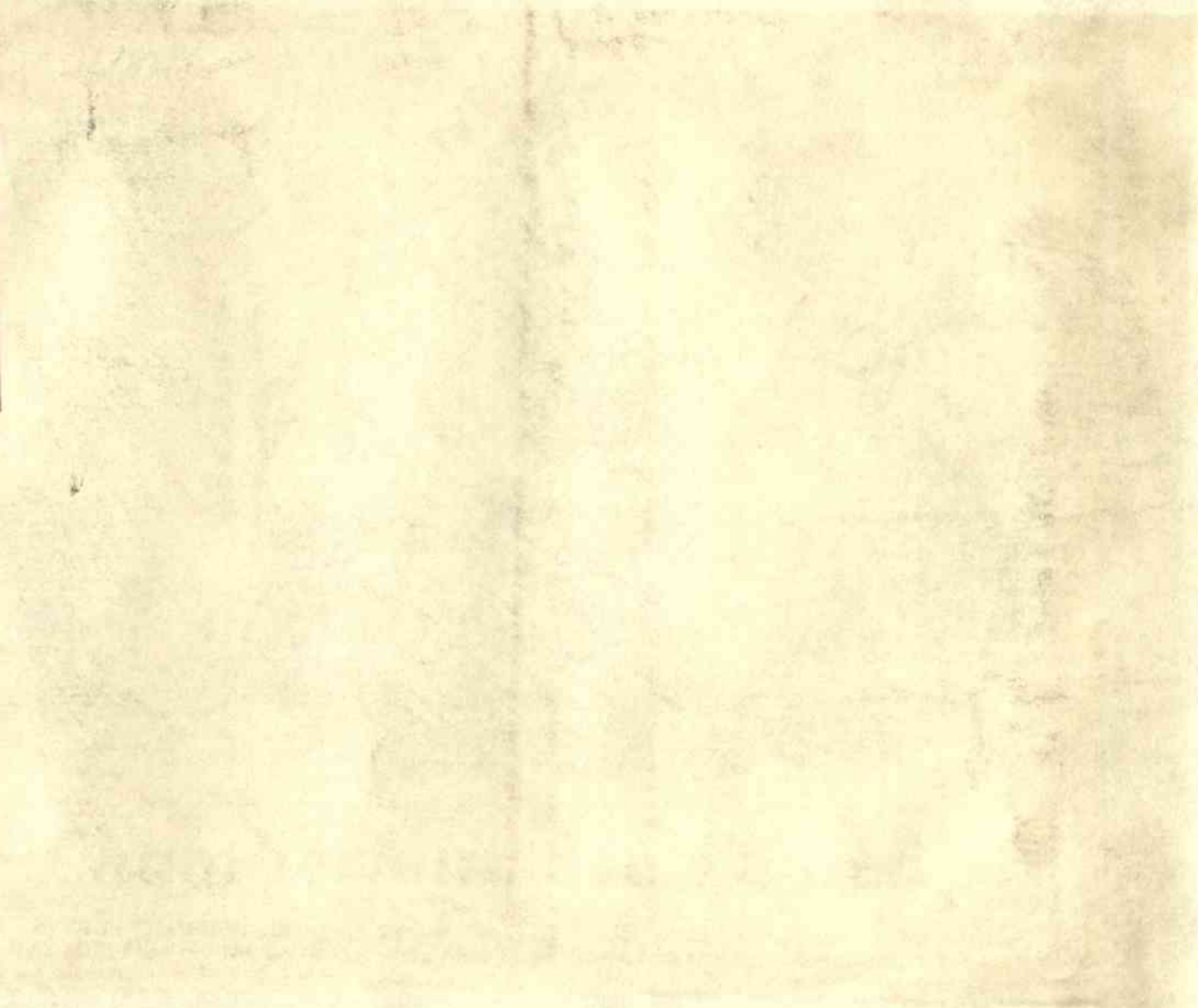
Vigo County Public Library

Amphitheater Deteriorating

Advancing years, neglect and some vandalism are responsible for the deterioration pictured here of the wall and columns at the top of the amphitheater at Fairbanks Park.

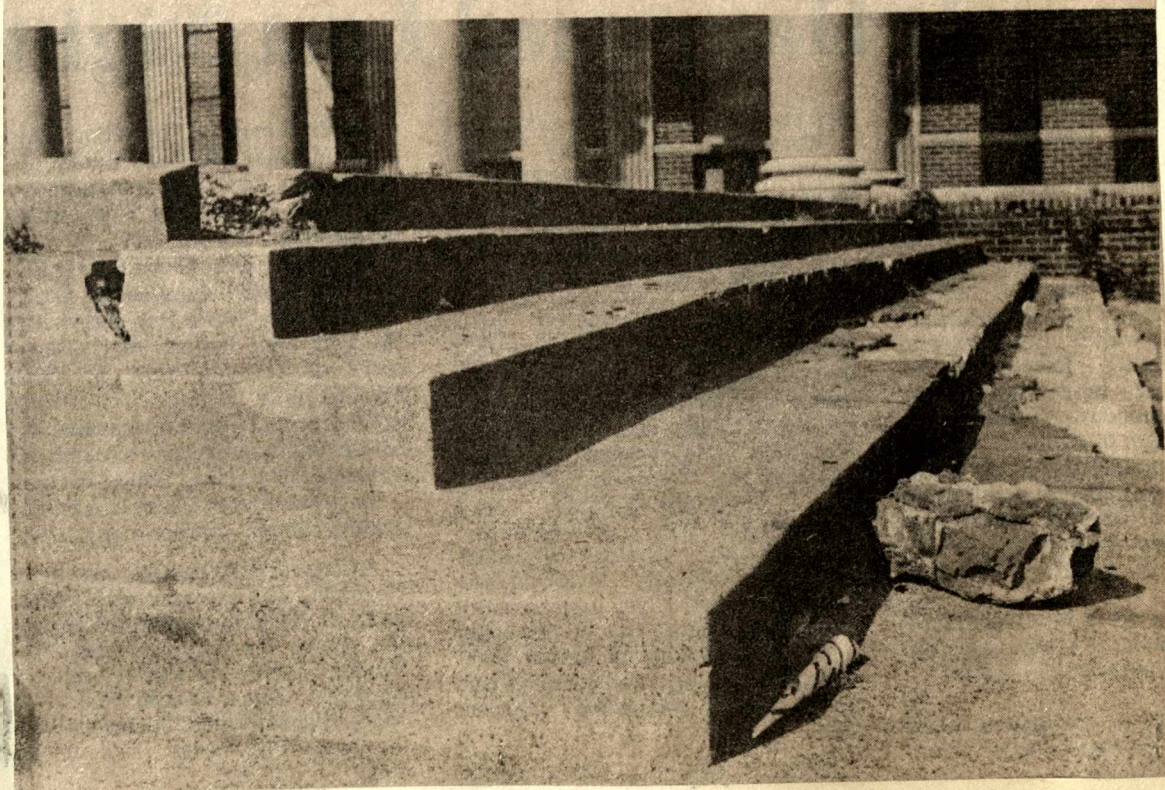
According to Pat Ralston, Terre Haute Park Department superintendent, age is the main factor and the situation should have been corrected several years ago. He said Tuesday city parks will be eligible for federal funds next year on a competitive basis and if the city receives these funds, all of Fairbanks Park will be rehabilitated as well as the swimming pools at other local parks on a one-per-year basis.

(Staff Photos: Mark Winkler)





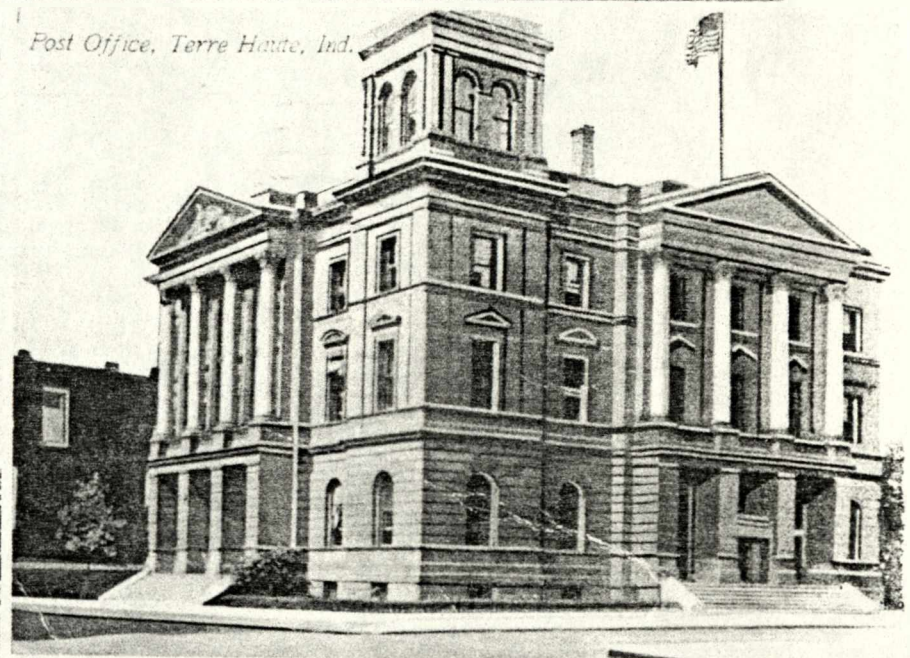
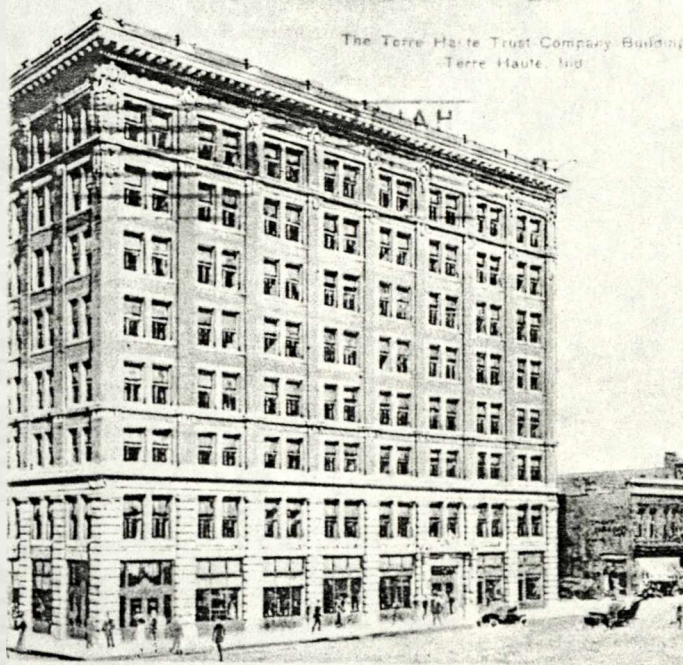
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erre Haute esteryear

Many landmarks of Terre Haute are gone, victims of the wrecker's ball. Others are still in service, sometimes modified. On these pages are postcards from the collection of Mrs. Nancy Nation of Terre Haute, along with some other old photographs.

The Filbeck Hotel, right, once stood on the northeast corner of Fifth and Cherry Streets.



Terre Haute Trust, upper left, is now known as the Merchants National Bank Building, Seventh and Wabash. The old Post Office stood on the site of the current Federal Building. The facade of the old building is in Fairbanks Park.



Many Fine Homes Make Way for City Progress

T.H. Historic Houses

T.H. Trib-Star 6/9/68

By DOROTHY J. CLARK

Many of the lovely old homes that were built for our founding fathers and builders of the community are still with us, but too many of them exist now only in the memories of our old citizens and in photographs and drawings.

The Historical Museum has photographs of all the old homes mentioned in this column.

Located at the southwest corner of 3rd and Ohio on Lot No. 119 was the home built by Lucius H. Scott in 1824. This residence and store was the first brick house in Terre Haute, pre-dated only by Gilman's office at 1st and Mulberry. The Scott home was demolished in 1923 to make way for a filling station.

Judge John T. Scott, father of the well-remembered attorney, George A. Scott, bought an old home in 1864 when they first came to Terre Haute. The house was built about 1835 on the east side of N. 7th St. south of 8th Ave. on land purchased from Demas Deming. It had been moved to this location from its original site at the southeast corner of the intersection.



DOROTHY J. CLARK

It was moved about 100 feet south when the Home for Aged Women was to be built.

At the time the Scott family bought the property, there

were a number of catalpa trees which had been planted by the builder of the house. An eastern nursery salesman had sold the builder these trees in about 1835, and at the same time had sold similar trees to Chauncey Rose, Curtis Gilbert, A. Cobble and others.

"Love and Affection"

Located on the west side of 6th St. between Swan and Oak on Outlot No. 35 was the Warren House. The land was owned by Dr. C. B. Modesitt. When his daughter, Frances, married Chauncey Warren in 1832, he deeded the property to Warren in 1835 "for love and affection."

Warren built the house and first occupied it three weeks after the birth of his daughter.

Eliza, on March 11, 1841. Eliza Warren lived in the home until her death in 1917, and the house was demolished in 1917.

Col. Richard W. Thompson built a house on the east side of 5th St. south of College Ave. He had purchased a strip of land 203 feet wide extending from 3rd to 6th in 1850, and beginning 203 feet south of College. The house then faced 6th St. with a long lane of catalpa trees on either side of the approach to the house.

Col. Thompson traded the property in 1864 to Wm. J. Ball, taking in exchange the Spring Hill home of Ball. After the marriage of Julia Ball and Dr. Moorehead, they built a new house and this one was demolished.

The Spring Hill house, mentioned above, was bought by Wm. J. Ball in 1856 after the completion of his work on the Wabash & Erie canal. The house was located on the Northeast Quarter of Section 11 in Honey Creek Twp. As resident engineer for the canal, Ball came to Terre Haute in 1841 and lived at the northwest corner of 6th and Poplar. In 1861 he traded with Col. Thompson and moved back to town.

This house saw the building of three railroads and the canal, but was finally destroyed by fire during the reign of a bootlegger.

Wager in Card Game

Located on the northwest corner of 6th and Poplar was the W. R. McKeen house built about 1880. It is reported, but without any confirmation, that this property was once owned by R. G. Hervey who promoted and built the Terre Haute and Peoria Railroad line by a merger and consolidation of several lines, some of which he only leased.

Mr. McKeen secured it as the winner of a poker game at which all the participants ran out of money and Mr. Hervey staked the deed of the property on his cards, and lost.

However, the deed of the property shows a consideration of \$85,000. This was probably in excess of actual value. The house was later occupied by the AP&S Clinic until it was razed for the erection of the present new clinic.

Still standing is the Hulman Sisters' house, 224 S. 6th, the northeast corner of 6th and Park Sts. Theodore Hulman, father of Anna and Gertrude Hulman who lived in the house, purchased the entire block from Deming to Park in 1864 previous to his marriage.

The house was the Wm. J. Ball house, purchased by Hulman from Wm. B. Tuell, and moved from its first location at the northwest corner of 6th and Poplar Sts. to its present site.

I never cease to be amazed at the number of houses that were moved to different locations in the city. The principle of jacking up the houses remains the same, but the manpower aided only by hay-burning horsepower made the task a monumental one. The low hourly wage for labor was certainly a factor in contracting the job for house-moving.

FAIRBANKS Bldg

T.H. Historic Bldg. Site S



T.H. T.H. 9/26/66
WRECK DOWNTOWN LANDMARK — Demolition crews went to work Sunday morning on the Fairbanks Building at 7th St. and Wabash Ave. All salvage was removed from the structure before the wrecker's lead ball started pounding down the walls. Indiana Wrecking Co. has the contract. A parking lot is planned at the site.
Chuck Strausburg Photo.

INDIANA STATE UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE

FALL 2003

✓ DOME PRESERVATION RECEIVES RECOGNITION

Terre Haute Landmarks, Inc. recognized Indiana State University's efforts to preserve and enhance a nearly 100-year-old community landmark with an award for historic preservation.

The University received the award for a project to enhance the lighting of a stained glass dome in Fairbanks Hall that features portraits of 16 historical figures. The project also included construction of a new walkway to make it easier to maintain the dome.

"Fairbanks Hall is most commonly known to the people of Terre Haute as the old Fairbanks Library," Andrew Connor, president of Terre Haute Landmarks, says. "So it's not just a treasure for Indiana State but it's a build-

ing of historic memories for people throughout the community."

Businessman and philanthropist Crawford Fairbanks funded the building's construction.

Ground was broken in 1904 and the building opened in August 1906 as the Emaline Fairbanks Memorial Library, named for its benefactor's mother.

The building was turned over to Indiana State in 1979 after the Vigo County Public Library opened its current main branch at Seventh and Poplar streets.

Fairbanks Hall currently houses University art studios and a student art gallery. ★

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By Frances E. Hughes

The El Palacio Mexican Restaurant at 30 North Brown Avenue burned to the ground on June 6.

On July 31, the arson investigating squads of the Indiana State Fire Marshall's office determined that the fire was arson.

Damage estimates were around \$600,000 for the building and its contents.

Not only was this a monetary loss and loss of a popular restaurant in Terre Haute, but it was also the end of another of Terre Haute's landmarks.

For the original building was built in 1902 as the Horseman's Hotel, opposite the old four-cornered race track which was where the present Stadium is located.

The hotel was built to accommodate those who came to attend or participate in the trotting horse races at the track.

This Terre Haute Mile Track was famous wherever the trotting horse was known and prized from 1887 until 1916. The track was built in 1886.

The Terre Haute Trotting Association was organized in 1882 and the track was opened in 1887. The height of racing at the track was from 1889 until 1910.

After 1910, the racing spirit waned and the track was cut to a half-mile one. The Grand Circuit stopped then.

The local track was an unusual four-cornered one, considered the fastest of its kind in the world. Here such standardbreds as Nancy Hanks, Axtell and Robert J. made their records.

Huge oil paintings of Axtell and Nancy Hanks in the lobby of the Terre Haute House recall to many the days of horse racing in Terre Haute.

There were four long stretches and four long turns, with corners banked up eight feet, making them easy to round. The track was a dry-weather one, 40 carloads of clay having been hauled from Clay County to cover it each year after it was built by the Terre Haute Agriculture Society.

The track was the scene of activity from the first of April each year, when the traders came from the south to train for the races which started in June, until the closing races at the Vigo County Fair each September.

There was big betting at the races. Underneath the grandstand was a bar with four or five bartenders in attendance, all kinds of gambling and the booths of the bookmakers.

One year, the annual Indiana State Fair was held at the race track, the only time it ever was held outside of Indianapolis. Bicycle races also were held there.

So, there was a need for hotels nearby and the Horseman's Hotel filled part of that need. The original building was built by William J. Henry with money lent by the Terre Haute Brewing Company in 1902.

Burned restaurant had colorful early history

Historic Landmarks (T.H.)

The original land on which the hotel was built was a land grant of 49 acres from "The U. S. of America by James Madison, President, to Nathan Sherwood, late a private in the Corps of Canadian Volunteers, September 4, 1816."

The next year, Sherwood sold the land to Thomas H. Clark, and later it went to Eliakim Crosby, and then to Thomas Bullitt in 1823. Bullitt willed it to his son, Cuthbert Bullitt, who left it to his daughter Amanthus Weissinger, in 1829. In 1830, the land was sold to William Willis, who died in 1845.

Gustanis Collins bought the property in 1850 and he had a farm there. He died in 1853, and after that 10 acres was sold to Samuel W. Burnham. Of this, seven acres, computed as "commending 29 chains and 24 links east of the northwest corner of 49 acres of land to the center of the National Road", were sold to Blackford B. Moffatt in 1859.

In 1868, the property went to George E. Duy and William Mack; in 1872, to Eaglesfield and Leake, and in 1886, to Joseph H. Blake, who subdivided it in 1888. Blake died in 1896.

In 1900, William J. Henry bought the lot where the hotel was built two years later. Stables for race horses were built on the north side of the hotel building.

There are many Senior Citizens of Terre Haute who remember Bill Henry's place, where there was a popular and perfectly respectable steak house on the first floor and a house of assignation on the second floor.

Here, men could take their women to eight private rooms, with access to which there was a separate stairway in front and a back stairway from the restaurant. A dumb-waiter in the rear of the restaurant was used to take food to the diners in the private rooms.

If the walls could have talked, what wild tales could probably have been heard! One of the tales concerned a prominent Terre Haute man who was shot on the second floor of the building.

This was not an unusual arrangement for many fine restaurants of the day for hotels were very strict as to the women that men could take to their rooms in those days and there were, of course, no motels. Such meetings of lovers in those days were on a much more secretive basis than the change in moral attitudes permits today.

During the Prohibition years from 1920 to 1933, Bill Henry's was a popular place. One could sneak in a bottle of "hooch" or perhaps buy one under the table for drinks at Henry's, where the best of steak dinners were served.

In 1939, a year before Henry's death, the owner made an annexed contract of sale to Mary E. Barbour, who released the downstairs to George Hadley for 14 months for use as a restaurant and tavern.

On December 18, 1943, the property was sold to Mr. and Mrs. Paul Pickett, who had had a liquor store at 828 Wabash Avenue. Paul and Pauline Pickett again ran the restaurant as a high class steak house until it was sold to Mr. and Mrs. Garwood Tucker on September 21, 1960.

The Picketts bought an extra lot north of the restaurant from Joseph H. Blake's daughter, Mrs. Helen Blake Ross, in 1944. The Tuckers also added to the property by purchasing four more lots to the north of the building for use as a parking lot. Houses on these lots were torn down. One of these was Ma Pruitt's tavern on the southwest corner of Brown and Schaal avenues.

The Tuckers, Garwood and Thelma, had owned The Spot Tavern, Lafayette Avenue and Eighth streets. They operated the Brown Avenue restaurant as a high-class steak house as had Bill Henry and Mr. and Mrs. Pickett.

The Picketts and the Tuckers both lived on the second floor of the building during the time they operated the restaurant. The rooms were remodeled by the Picketts and again by the Tuckers. One of the numbers was still on one of the rooms, probably still there from the time it was a hotel or a house of assignation.

The Tuckers sold the property to Al Tedesco in November of 1973, and the new owner opened it as The Godfather, where lingerie shows were presented for a few months during the cocktail hours. Tedesco leased it to Paul Ramage, who ran it as the El Palacio Mexican Restaurant until the fire.

For many years, this was one of the bright spots of the Wabash Valley, known far and wide for delicious foods and beverages.

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By B. J. Vondersmith

Most Americans are given to symmetry. We like orderly arrangements of our objects and our lives, perhaps because we know that this artificial order softens the blow of life's definite absurdity.

Curiously, though, we fail to recognize the absurdity in which we are mired. On the serious side, I find it absurd that education has turned away from time-tested, eonic values to become the handmaiden, perhaps even the prostitute of industry. In twelve years of schooling our high school graduates are confused by their native tongue, but a clothing salesman in Holland is trilingual.

Many would consider absurd the four years of Latin, three years of German, and two years of Greek required of me in high school. None of my fellow classmates found Caesar, or Cicero, or Virgil, or Homer, or Goethe, or Hesse to be absurd. Difficult yes; absurd no. We managed to believe what the ages have proven: nothing is new. Timeless values do not suffer the alacritous atrophy that besets Mattel toys.

Perhaps I've spent too much time studying the literature of the past. Perhaps my view is either jaded or jaundiced. Perhaps I find the doctrine of relevance an unnecessary tool of superficial education. Perhaps I haven't studied the past enough. I can accept those accusations of old-fashioned correctness, but I find no poetry in Rod McKuen, no music in Johnny Cash, no art in five and dime reproductions, no aesthetic in *Towering Inferno*, no depth in the "now" "good-looking" on the spot newscasters who attempt to project themselves more than they attempt journalism.

But I do find absurdity wherever I look, though not in strange, creepy, avant-garde places. The strongholds of middle class America abound with enough absurdity to last me a lifetime. I'll pass by the world of fashion for a while, but note in passing the popularity or squeaky clean bib overalls and the uniform of the painter's union. Young people who know not the value of labor or, for that matter, labor itself are buying these symbols of toil in the "quality" stores of America.

Absurdity, thy name is Barbie and TV and . . .

Likewise, I will not winnow the absurdities of cosmetic counters, politics, popular movies, conservatives who want to look hip, hip people who are at heart conservative, Reverend Ike, or carnival games. Instead, I should like to concentrate on two of America's staples: the supermarket and the television set.

We don't like to remind ourselves that television addresses itself to a nine-year-old audience, and I am not surprised at all that most of our absurdity originates on television. I began to think about absurdity a few years ago when my oldest daughter asked for a "Barbie doll" as a present. I thought it an innocent request. When I got to the local superstore I was shocked with discovery. I tagged a sales clerk, asking if she had any "Barbie dolls" which didn't look like hookers. She was shocked at my question. I was miffed by the absurdity of Barbie and Ken. Nonplussed, I purchased for my daughter the image of the oldest profession.

Television and supermarkets, however, are the subject at hand, and they are interwoven with absurdity. Television spends much time reminding us of odors which emanate from all parts of the body. The so-called food stores have followed suit by moving part of their produce departments to the hygiene area. Once they sold maybe one brand of soap, now thousands. We can choose from twenty or thirty deodorants, in three or four forms: pressurized cans, spritzers, roll ons, and wipe ons. Lye soap is dead. In its place we have everything from cold cream additives to machismic perfumes. I've watched television and used the soaps, but my body has failed to sing, my skin has failed to tingle, and my soap bar has not lasted very long. I have not profited from the psychological effects that television has promised.

I am also thrilled by men's colognes. remember the refreshing aroma of my father's "Mennen After Shave." He screeched a bit when he applied it after shaving, but in moments his whole self seemed to perk up. My experience with after shave lotions is that same sting. In fact, I'm still working on a bottle my wife gave me seven or eight years ago. I still don't want to smell like a lemon, or an orange, or a strawberry, or any other fruit. Nor do I want to be a musk(rat). Thank you television for telling me that I'm not a man unless I smell like a fruit. Thank you food stores for participating in this civilized absurdity.

Shampoo was a bad movie, perhaps itself symbolic of the bad taste of American industry. On any given morning I can choose to shampoo with strawberry, lemon, honeysuckle, green apple, jasmin, apricot, and red apple. Of course I can rinse with the same flavors. I am awaiting the arrival of onion, garlic, tomato, and zucchini flavors for shampoo and rinse. I remember with fondness the time when a bar of Ivory was enough for the entire body.

I could go on to men's hair sprays, various different names for aspirin, cures for common diarrhea, sleeping pills, and modern remedies for monthly ills, but I find myself drawn away from disposable diapers and specially treated wipers to the absurdity of modern food.

Instead of using whole tomatoes and tomato paste, a clove of garlic, a piece of basil, a healthy dash of sugar and cheese, and a bit of onion, Americans have turned away from real Italian cookery to the convenience of a Chef Boyardee who has probably never seen Italy or spoken to an Italian.

Instead of spending a part of a dollar on a package of pudding mix, Americans have turned to a canned variety which barely resembles the home made pudding which the powder at least resembles.

Instead of going to the delicatessen section of the supermarket for a half pound of bologna (though we all say balony, or baloney), shoppers race for tasteless, spreadable sandwich fillers. Not to mention the tasteless, nutritionless helpers for hamburgers which have replaced some damned good home made casseroles. Spare me the falsies; give me stuffed peppers. If we get too tired squeezing our own lemons, we can also buy artificial lemon juice which squirts out of artificial lemons. Or, we can move back to the hygiene department and squeeze all possibilities into our hair. Absurd? I think so, but we do accept it all without a squirm. Perhaps we accept the absurd as normal and discard the normal as absurd.

For the moment I'll overlook the many other absurdities which Terre Haute supermarkets provide. Television is too rich a field to overlook. Imagine an American dis-

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Renovation turns back hands of time

By Denise Egan *TS Aug 24, 1986*
Tribune-Star Correspondent

PARIS, Ill. — She isn't surrounded by the hoopla associated with the restoration of her cousin Lady Liberty, but all the same Miss Justice stands proudly atop Edgar County Courthouse, graciously accepting her own share of tender loving care.

Renovation and painting of the courthouse tower is going "better than expected thanks to the excellent weather," said Harry Farris, Edgar County board member and chairman of the building committee.

The steeplejack specialist firm, R.L. High of Clinton, Ill., has completed the second week of work on the tower. The four-man team was contracted for \$8,000 per week of 160 man-hours, limited to seven weeks.

After being scraped, the tower roof has received a first coat of primer, Farris said, and a final coat of Spanish red will be applied.

The finished Miss Justice, made of cast iron, will be a gleaming white, and already her scales of justice have been replaced. The gold-colored scales returned to the Lady on Thursday were remade to be suspended by rods to assure stability in high winds.

"We thought that two [of the four clock faces] were not repairable and would have to be replaced," Farris continued, adding that the committee made its judgment based on viewing the clocks through binoculars. No one has actually been in the tower since the last maintenance in 1967.

Fortunately, however, the two clocks have been repaired and will receive two more coats of paint. The work is hoped to last 10 years.

Even without the finishing touches "the clock faces look great," said Bill Brown, county board member.

If the work is completed within the seven weeks, the steeplejacks can quit or do extra maintenance on the slate, gutters and downspouts, depending upon the board. In any case, the cost will not exceed \$56,000.

Farris said only 13 pages of specifications existed concerning the courthouse architecture. While the material was interesting, he said it was not very informative. The original drawings have not been seen since the 1950s, thwarting many attempts to find them.

The building's four entrances and the center tower fitted with mesh window screens were designed to provide for good air ventilation in all rooms. That good ventilation ceases when "you close up the windows and put in air conditioners. Then you're in trouble," Farris remarked.

The sandstone courthouse is the third for Paris.

According to "The History of Edgar County," published in 1879, the first courthouse was built after the county's 1823 organization. John Edgar, for whom the county

was named, was "a British Army officer who resigned his commission to cast his lot with the Americans in the Revolution."

The temporary log structure was 32 feet long and 22 feet wide and was to have been built in "a good and sufficient workmanlike manor."

Completed in 10 months at a cost of \$690, the courthouse stood on the south side of the square and was said to have been "as good for the times as could be expected."

It wasn't long before the citizenry determined that the building's position was "detrimental to the business growth of the town." It was sold so a larger structure could be built in the center of the square.

An Oct. 24, 1936, issue of the Paris Beacon-News says the second seat of county government was built by Leander Munsell, a pioneer builder, at a cost of \$41,250. It was in this brick structure that Abraham Lincoln practiced law in the 1840s and 1850s.

Prairie Progress, a history of Edgar County, says the courthouse once caught fire when some hoodlums threw matches on the roof. The fire was soon extinguished but firefighters were called again to put the rekindled fire out. The Beacon-News, which was "continually plumping for a new courthouse," said, "There should be a law to fine persons who shall give an alarm when the old den gets on fire again."

After the county outgrew this building 70 years later, plans were made for another. The 1891 board of supervisors' records show the third courthouse was bid at a cost of \$71,226 by Hibbard Bros. of New York City and Ohio. The architect was Henry Eliot of Jacksonville, Ill., who used blue stone from a quarry near Cleveland, Ohio. The price tag jumped to \$104,807 when the tower was added, making the structure 19 feet higher.

The building was completed on Nov. 20, 1893.

The center of the floor contains a brass plate marking the site where a great jack oak tree blazed with the name "Paris" once stood. From this exact spot, a survey set the boundaries of the 26 acres donated by Samuel Vance for the county seat. This marker indicates the center of the county.

Walter Kimble, past president of the Edgar County Historical Society, once described the building as a "rather bizarre building with carved porches, sculptured relief work and lofty dome surmounted by the Statue of Justice facing west."

Kimble believes that "the pride of the generation that built it is reflected in the flowery language of the dedicatory pamphlet which describes the Edgar County Courthouse as 'the peerless gem of her green prairies, the pride and the glory of her people.'"

The courthouse, which will soon celebrate its centennial, is listed in the National Register of Historical Places.

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Community Affairs File

Vigo County Public Library



Tribune-Star/Bob Poynter

Skill of an acrobat

Dave Thomas uses the skill of an acrobat in applying a paint roller to the dome of the courthouse in Paris, Ill. Thomas is part of a paint crew attending to the beautification program on the courthouse. The project had been a daily attraction to large crowd of interested citizens, who stop to oversee the crew at work. The results of the renovation project speak for themselves.

Scott Letter Tells About Terre Haute's First Tavern

By DOROTHY J. CLARK

Over a century ago Lucius H. Scott wrote a letter to the Editor of the EXPRESS: "In your paper of the 26th January, 1870, I notice the following item: "Henry Redford didn't erect the first tavern in Terre Haute, so an old residenter informs the JOURNAL." To which you pertinently ask, "Who did?"

"It may not be thought a matter of much real importance as to who did, or did not, erect the first tavern in Terre Haute, but as Terre Haute and its early history are so intimately associated with my own that I can never hear either alluded to without the liveliest interest — and then, as time rolls on, and the little village of some half dozen log cabins of fifty-three years since has developed into the proportions of a large commercial and manufacturing city — nothing connected with its origin can fail to interest its inhabitants, especially those few, like myself, who have known it for half a century.

"I know not who the "old residenter," may be who furnished the JOURNAL's information on the subject; but he cannot speak from his own personal experience. With your permission, I will state a few incidents connected with my own advent to Terre Haute, having, as you will observe, some connection with the question.

"On the 6th day of June, 1817, in company with John W. Osborn, the father-in-law of Judge Gookins, I arrived at Vincennes, after a journey of nearly two months, from St. Lawrence county, New York. Osborn, being a printer, readily obtained employment in Elihu Stout's printing office in Vincennes; but, after spending three weeks vainly seeking for something to do, I determined to seek my fortune higher up the Wabash Valley, and set out on foot for the newly laid out town of Terre Haute.

"In Vincennes I met and formed a slight acquaintance with John Britton, who had been at Terre Haute and was making his temporary home at the house of David Barnes — small log cabin situated on section 16, on the edge of the prairie, not far from the present cemetery. Having to walk the whole distance from Vincennes and carry my bundle, I made slow progress, and was nearly three days upon the journey.



DOROTHY J. CLARK

I found my new friend Britton as I expected, and was kindly and hospitably received by him and the family, but as the cabin was small and I found the family were not in a condition to receive and additional boarded. I determined to make my stay as brief as possible. I had introductory letters from Vincennes to Major Chunn and his officers at Fort Harrison, and to Major Markle at Otter Creek, which, I determined, to lose no time in delivering. The second day after my arrival I visited the Fort and found the officers in their quarters. Nothing could exceed the kindness and hospitality with which they received me. The Major in-

sisted upon my making my home at the Fort until I found some kind of employment. Situated as I was, I most gratefully accepted his hospitality, and removed my scanty baggage to the Fort.

"In a day or two I set out in the early summer morning, to cross the prairie to deliver my letters to Major Markle. I missed the track and went to Otter Creek bridge. I was conscious of

Continued On Page 6, Col. 1.

my error, but the beauty of the morning led me on until I found myself standing on an eminence in the midst of Otter Creek Prairie.

"On casting my eye over the broad expanse, not a tree or a house, or a fence, or ploughed field, or other indication of home or civilization, presented themselves to view, but all was one boundless, magnificent bed of beautifully variegated flowers.

"I stood and gazed until my reason failed, and when about to retrace my steps, my eye caught the glimpse of a slight column of smoke, winding up among the trees in a distant corner of the prairie. I made my way to it and found a family in a small log cabin, which they had as yet, occupied too short a time to have made any improvements around them. I then obtained directions which enabled me, without further difficulty, to find the Otter Creek mills. The Major

was at home, and received me with that frank, graceful cordial hospitality, for which he was so widely celebrated. Your older citizens — a few of them — may have known him — Mr. Rose and Mr. Gilbert certainly did, and to them I need not describe him — but as I saw him at that first interview, I thought him the most magnificent specimen of manhood I had ever seen. Like Saul among the children of Israel, he stood "a head and shoulders above them all." I, of course, dined with him, and that brief visit was the commencement of a warm friendship that continued during the remainder of his life.

"But the inquiry may fairly be made, what has all this to do with the question as to the "builder of the first tavern in Terre Haute." It has this to do with it. Had there been a tavern in Terre Haute on my arrival there in June, 1817, I should very naturally have availed myself of it on my first arrival, rather than accept — under the circumstances — the hospitality of my friend Britton, and the family of David Barnes.

"The truth is — and there is no incident connected with my first visit to Terre Haute — more distinctly remembered, than that on my arrival, the latter part of June, 1817, there was neither tavern or boarding houses there. Henry Redford had just erected the building, partly

of hewed logs and partly frame, on the corner of Wabash and either Front or Water street, the name not distinctly remembered; the same afterwards kept by Robert Harrison, and still later by our old friend, Captain James Wasson, under the somewhat singular cognomen of "Eagle and Lion" which was illustrated upon his sign by a patriotic picture representing the American Eagle perched upon the back of the British Lion, evidently placing in jeopardy the Royal animal's eye! But I will venture the assertion that however grotesque the sign, or however difficult at that early period to obtain supplies, that there has been no public house in Terre Haute from that to the present day, where a weary traveller could be placed more at his ease, where he could obtain a better dinner or supper, a better bed or breakfast, or where he would receive more gentle kindness from the landlady, or more generous warm-hearted hospitality from the landlord, than at the Eagle and Lion, under the administration of Captain James and Mrs. Wasson.

This was the first tavern ever erected in Terre Haute — and it was erected by Henry Redford. The walls were up, the roof on, and the floors laid, but the rest all unfinished even the windows not in and there we celebrated the 4th of July, 1817.

"Major John J. Chunn of the army then commanded the Military Post at Fort Harrison. His officers were Lieutenants Sturges and Floyd, and Surgeon Clark and McCullough. Some respectable non-commissioned officers including "Billy Noga" and his violin, and the Military Band of the Fort all contributed to the enjoyment of the occasion. The attempted celebration under the circumstances was mainly attributed to the officers of the Fort and they felt bound to carry it through. The "medicine chest" of the garrison was made to contribute, a quantum sufficient of good old wine and all else necessary were furnished with the greatest profusion. Speeches, toasts and patriotic songs were the order of the day until a late hour, when couriers were dispatched in all directions, on horseback, to bring in the ladies. Some few families had settled on the east side of the Prairie and some on Honey Creek, and when brought together, formed a respectable company, and in the language of the old song we "danced all night, till broad day light, and went home with the girls in the morning." (signed) Lucius H. Scott."

Historic Buildings Often Become Lost, Forgotten

T.H. Trib-Star 7/14/68

By DOROTHY J. CLARK

It took some looking to find the old Subscription School, and I would imagine not even the tenants living in the old structure know its history. Located on the northeast corner of Seventh and Elm on Lot No. 9 in Rose's Subdivision, it has changed drastically from its first purpose as a school house.

James Fitzpatrick, local politician and abstractor here for many years, confirmed the above information by stating that he attended school here in 1858 and the building was not new then.

Another building which we pass by frequently is now 111 years old. It is Washington Hall, located on Lot No. 88 of Rose's Addition, the northeast corner of Eighth and Wabash, which was built in 1857. The first floor was occupied by a saloon for many years. The upper floors were used by various trade unions as a meeting place. A dry-cleaning business now occupies the old Washington Hall.



DOROTHY J. CLARK

One can't read local history without bumping into references to Dowling Hall. This building was located on the west side of North Sixth St., north from the alley north of Wabash to the Copeland build-

ing, which was at the corner of Cherry street. Only part of the building was Dowling Hall, built by Col. Thomas Dowling in 1864 at the cost of \$60,000. It was to this building Dowling moved the offices of the Wabash & Erie Canal when he became superintendent.

First Opera House

This was the first building to be erected purposely for operatic and dramatic use and to accommodate companies on tour. It had the largest stage in Indiana. The entertainment area comprised the entire second floor, but the north end became the drill hall for various semi-military organizations.

The lower floor at the corner of the alley was the second home of the Hunter Laundry before they moved into their new building erected by James Hunter on the north-

east corner of Sixth and Cherry, now a parking lot.

Miller Bros. & Co. had their bakery in the Dowling Hall building for a time making crackers and bread before moving out on Wabash in the 1400 block where Eastern Motors have their offices now.

The old Dowling Hall building was demolished in 1920 to make way for the present Chanticleer building.

Somehow I hated to see the old Kirkoff building torn down recently. I was always fascinated by the carved stone horse head over the door denoting harness shop.

Located at 19 South Fifth and later known as Froeb's building, it was built by Fred A. Ross in 1875, and Kirkoff was the first occupant. He had been at the southeast corner of Fifth and Main for only a short time, but had been in business in the Linton Block for many years.

The building next to this one was built at the same time, but I have no history of its occupants.

Located on the west side of North 3rd between Eagle and Chestnut on the lot occupied by Ermish's later was a small frame house built before 1865. Max Joseph moved into it with his family when his son, Leo Joseph, was only six months old. The family had first lived in Early Row apartments at the north end of the same block. The Joseph home was demolished in 1908 to make way for Ermish building, which is also gone now.

Indoils in Old Atlas 1

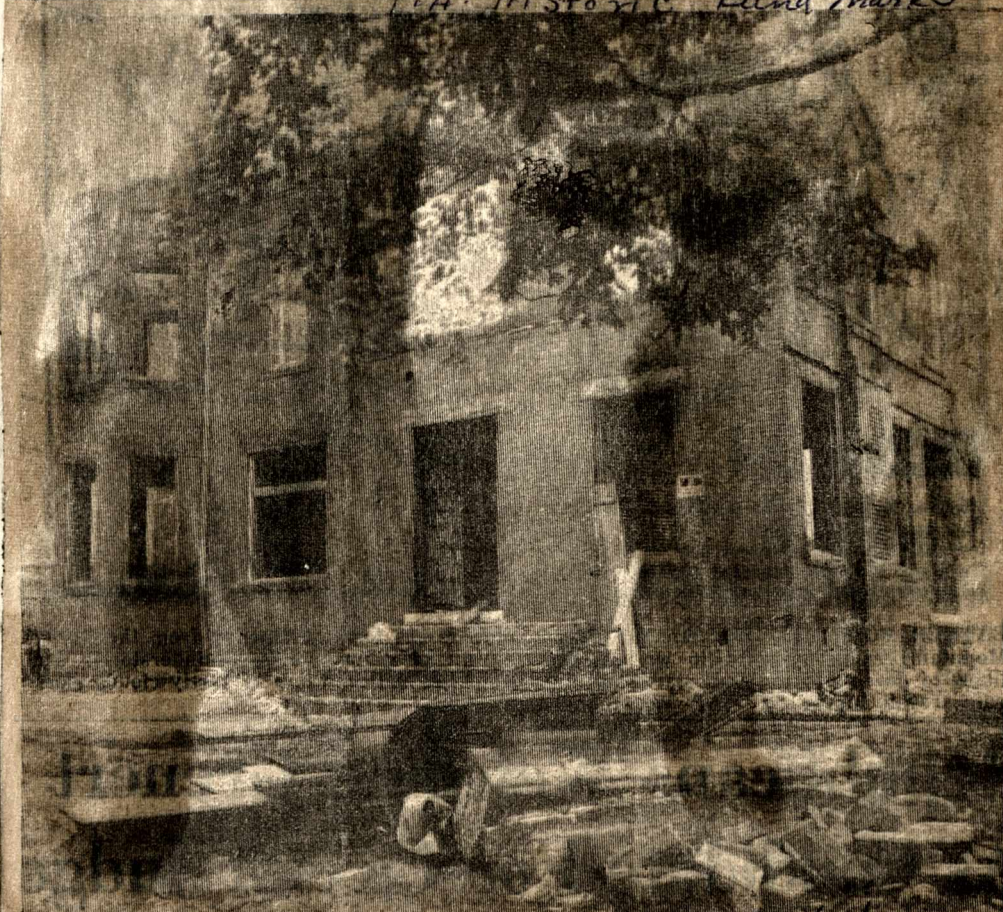
In the 1874 Vigo County Atlas is a drawing of the St. Clair House, the old hotel which is now the Indoils Hotel. The ground floor corner rooms were occupied by Max Joseph listed as merchant, tailor, clothier and general furnisher.

Located on the west side of Fourth street, south of Wabash, on Lot No. 69 was the Fourth Post Office, built by Chauncey Warren in 1853 under a lease from the Post Office Dept. which included only the lower floor. The upper floors were used by the Terre Haute Journal as editorial and publishing rooms. In 1861 a mob of soldiers under the command of their officers wrecked the Journal equipment because of the paper's political trend.

The post office moved into these new quarters in December, 1853 and occupied the building until the lease expired December, 1868, and it moved to South Sixth street in the building erected by John S. Beach when E. J. Read was postmaster. That location is now Root's parking lot.

THE TERRE HAUTE STAR, MONDAY, JULY 29, 1968

T.H. Historic Landmarks



T.H. Star 7/29/68.
ANOTHER LANDMARK GOING — With the wrecking of the E. H. Bindley house of Neo-Jacobean architecture at 618 S. 6th St., to make a parking lot for the United Hebrew Congregation Temple adjoining it on the north, another of the old landmarks will disappear in Terre Haute. The house of red brick with a cupola and large porch was built in 1905 by E. H. Bindley, and after his death his son, E. H. Bindley Jr., and his daughter, Miss Delphine Bindley, lived there. They both died several years ago and from their estate, the house was sold to the temple for a parking lot. (Photo by Kadel).

E. H. Bindley House

618 S. 6th

T. H. Historic Landmarks

Landmark Passes From City Scene

T. H. Trib. 12/30/66.

By RUTH COOPER

Having been condemned since March, 1965, and last used in 1953, old Fire Station No. 6 at 13th and Crawford streets is finally being torn down.

The unmanned station had housed what is now obsolete equipment, "probably 20 years old," according to Fire Chief Don Harris, until early in 1965 when the equipment was taken out of service and stored at Memorial Stadium.

New fire equipment added to the department this year put the old trucks out of commission and they are expected to be sold shortly, said Harris.

Though no definite plans have been made by the Board of Public Works and Safety for the use of the property (approximately two city lots) old No. 6 has to go anyway.

"It has deteriorated to the point where it's now a hazard to the community," said Harry Forbes, building inspector. "It's worn out. The bricks are loose and the sides are bulging."

And no wonder. The old fire house has been serving the community since 1887—more than 80 years. It was first built at that particular location because a steel mill and nail works operated nearby and often needed immediate fire protection, according to Ralph

Dinkle, 1930 S. 29th St., Terre Haute Fire Chief from 1939 to 1943.

At that time, in the 1880's, No. 6 housed a horsedrawn steamer and hose wagon, the steamer manned by two men and the wagon by one. Later improvements brought a horse-drawn ladder truck to the firehouse and finally a motor vehicle around 1915.

Steam pumps were used to increase water pressure from city hydrants or from ponds or cisterns where hydrants weren't available. None of the old steamers have been preserved, said Dinkle.

No. 6 was replaced in 1961 with a new fire house at the corner of 26th and Hulman Sts.

Hillsdale students bring landmark back to life to help town's residents

Community Affairs File

Historic Landmarks (W.U.)

Daily Clintonian 11-27-84

One of the oldest historical landmarks in the small town of Hillsdale, a flight of 94 cement steps connecting the upper and lower streets of the town, was renovated recently by students from Hillsdale Christian School.

According to Hillsdale resident Fern Stewart, the steps were built in approximately 1906 by her grandfather and uncle, John Self, Sr. and John, Jr., who also mixed and poured the concrete by hand.

Self volunteered to make the steps to provide easier access for people living below the hill who attended the old Methodist Church, built in 1904, now Hillsdale Bible Church. In the days when people walked, instead of driving a car, these steps were a great convenience to the people living on top of the hill to go to the store and post office and the many other businesses operating in Hillsdale at that time.

Every person who ever attended the Hillsdale School has fond memories of the "stone steps," ac-

cording to Maxine Ogle, Hillsdale resident. Little girls enjoyed playing "jacks" on the steps and it was quite a challenge to be able to run up the 94 steps without stopping. Many a budding romance blossomed on the old landmark, she said.

Under the supervision of Administrator and Principal, Pastor Bob Sizemore, and Basketball Coach Warren Gordon, a group of sixth grade students and up, undertook the project of cleaning the steps last week. According to Sizemore, "The students had to do all their normal academic work in order to participate." The students, who brought their own tools, were able to complete the job in about five hours and were rewarded with a party afterwards, said Sizemore.

Sizemore said he got the idea for the project when he noted that the area "needed to be cleaned up," and said that it not only gave "easier accessibility to the public, pride to the community and a good testimony for the school, but also

taught the students a lesson in the value of teamwork." He added that the students will also be available, free of charge, for basic work, such as yard work, moving furniture, shoveling snow, etc., to elderly people of Hillsdale and Montezuma, who need assistance by calling 245-2577 or 245-2015.

The students who worked on the project were Eric Davis, Scott Ogle, David Aukerman, Shawn Pribble, Donnie Coonce, Troy Hills, April Pribble, Rhonda Gordon, Teresa McCain, Johnny Patton, Amanda Sizemore and Jennifer Morris.

Sizemore said the students will be constructing a historical marker to place at the top and bottom of the hill telling who built the steps and the date. "I am very pleased with the kids," Sizemore stated.

Another Hillsdale resident offered commendation to the school by saying, "The town owes the young people a vote of thanks for a job very well done."

HILLSDALE

Community Affairs File

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Vigo County Public Library



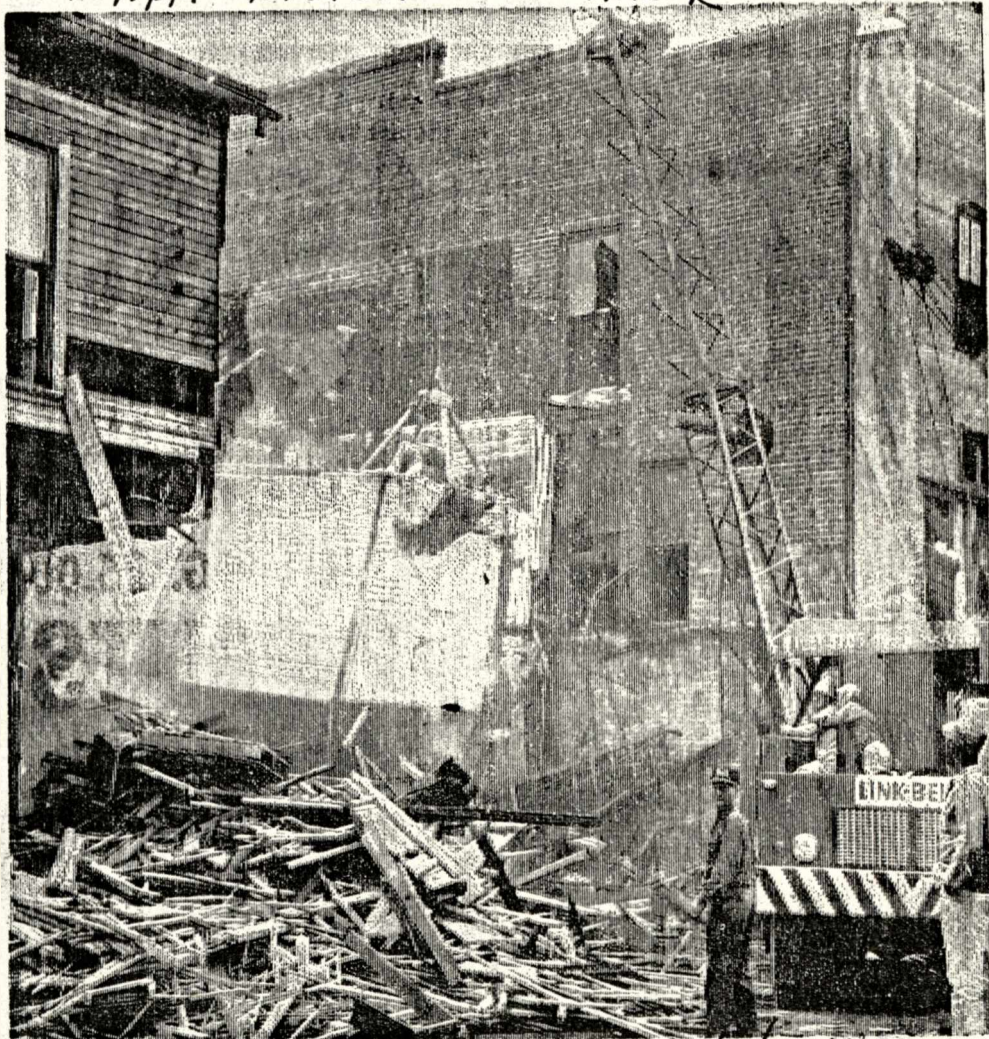
Back to life

In a project to help beautify the town, Hillsdale Christian School students recently cleaned up these old steps — one of the oldest historical landmarks in Vermillion County. The students, who



willingly and cheerfully worked on the project, will also offer help, free of charge, to area elderly people who need assistance this winter.

T.H. Historic Landmark



T.H. Trib. 9/19/68

LANDMARK COMES DOWN—Workmen Wednesday afternoon began the task of tearing down the Husted Hotel, located on the southeast corner of 7th and Ohio Sts. Part of the historic Terre Haute landmark was built prior to the Civil War. Crewmen of the B&C Wrecking Co., working in the rear, as the building is torn down by a large crane. Strausburg Photo.

T.H. 5 to 11c Landmarks

Downtown Landmark

Ready For Wreckers

T.H. Star 5/30/68

By FRANCES E. HUGHES
Star Staff Writer

Another local landmark destined to make way for progress is the property on the southeast

corner of Seventh and Ohio streets.

The building is scheduled to be torn down after Aug. 1, and notice to evacuate has been given by the new owners to tenants in a small hotel, five storerooms and 12 small living quarters in four apartment houses.

Although the property was sold Feb. 2 by Foulkes Realty Co., Clark Foulkes and his sister, Mrs. Mildred Anderson, El Paso, Tex., to House Properties, Inc., John House, president, no change in the status of the property was made until the last two weeks. Robert Pfister of J. B. Pfister Co., Inc., handled the exchange of property.

House would make no statement as to the disposition of the property, saying only that his firm was "contemplating different uses."

+ + +

The buildings occupy a space of 75 by 141 feet. On the first floor corner is Tickner Optical Laboratory, with the Picture House and a vacant storeroom adjoining it on Ohio Street and the Pink Pussycat and Lawrence Krebe Studios (photographers) adjoining it on Sev-

See LANDMARK
On Page 2, Column 3

Landmark

Continued From Page 1

enth Street. Above these is the Husted Hotel with 25 rooms and currently 18 tenants, as well as the apartment of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Husted, who manage it.

South of this on Seventh Street, clear to the alley, are four apartments, each with three living accommodations—a three-room and a two-room apartment as well as a single sleeping room in each. There are 13 people living in these apartments.

Mr. and Mrs. Husted, who have handled the hotel and apartments since June, 1940, will evacuate the premises on June 22, and will retire and move to their home at 201 S. 9th St.

The history of this property dates back to the American Civil War. Part of the original 14-room red brick house on the corner may still be found in the 18-inch thick brick walls at the back of the hotel.

+ + +

In this 14-room house, Dr. William Henry Roberts and family lived when he started his medical practice shortly after the Civil War, coming to Terre Haute to establish himself from Illinois. His office was then on the Seventh Street side of the house. Later he built an addition to the house on the Ohio Street side for his office. Next door to his office then was the home of Cyrus McNutt, later head of the law school of Indiana University and uncle of Governor Paul McNutt.

When Dr. Roberts' son, Donn Roberts and his wife were married in 1889, they went to house-keeping for a few years in a small house on Seventh Street, on property adjoining the big house.

In the 1890s, Donn Roberts, who later served as mayor of Terre Haute, built the Roberts Flats on Seventh Street, adjoining his father's home and office on the corner. These were then considered the most fashionable and exclusive "flats" in the city, and they were occupied by prominent families.

+ + +

Attorney Jack Jett was born in one of these flats when his parents, Dr. and Mrs. Frank H. Jett, were in residence there.

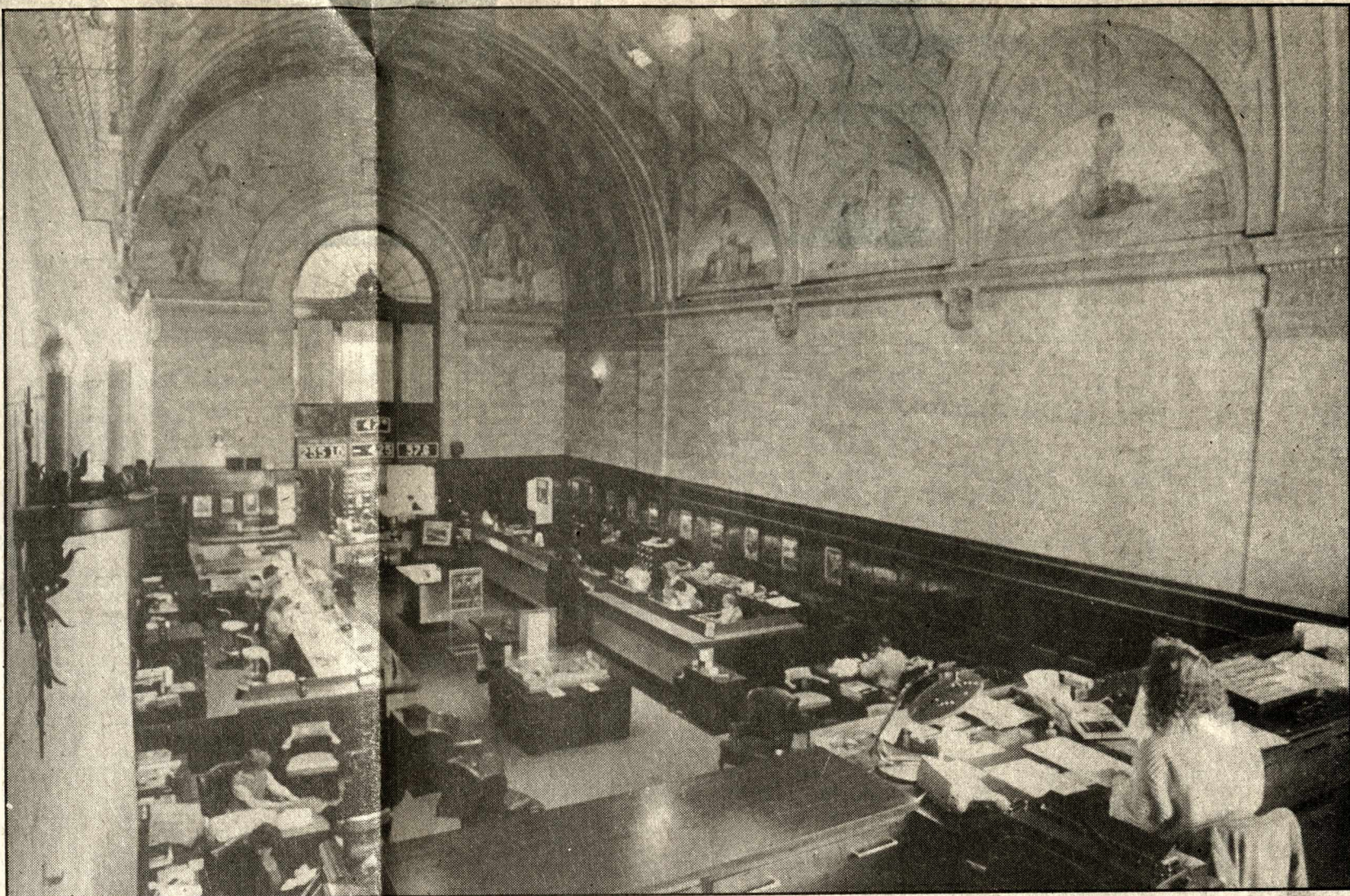
In 1904, Donn Roberts built the hotel and business rooms around part of the old house. This was originally covered with white tile.

Dr. Roberts was the grandfather and Donn Roberts, the father, of Mrs. Russell Bonham, 1317 S. 5th St., and Mrs. Mathilde Waller, Merom, who have many memories of the property.

George C. Foulkes bought the property from Dr. Roberts after the flats were built and owned it until his death, when it went to his son and daughter.

HUSTED HOTEL

Tribune-Star/Jim Avelis
Stately: Though its interior is church-like, this historic Wabash Avenue building (right), once a tobacco manufacturing plant, has housed First National Bank since 1928. The murals high above the bank floor are banking symbols. Among the symbols are (above) power and wealth.



Architectural artifacts among Terre Haute's...

TIMELESS TREASURES

Story by
 Dave Delaney

It's OCT 18 1997

It takes time for valuables to accumulate, whether for an individual or a community. But when you've been around a while, there are sure to be a collection of treasures on hand that remind us where we've been and what we've gone through to get here.

Terre Haute certainly has an impressive share of collectibles that have been built since the city was founded in 1816.

Three outstanding examples that harken back to earlier times here are the Immanuel Lutheran Church at 645 Poplar St. (built in 1885), Terre Haute First National Bank at 643 Wabash Ave. (built in 1894), and the three-story Romanesque-Victorian residence of Dick and Willa Vee Snyder at 903 S. Center St (built in 1897).

Immanuel Lutheran

One of four local Lutheran churches and easily the oldest, for many years locals referred to Immanuel as the German church. "Both German and English were spoken here at services until around World War I," said pastor Philip G. Meyer. "Many children learned their catechism in both languages."

One of those German-speaking youngsters was Herman Moench, now a retired Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology professor of electrical engineering. "I learned most of my catechism in German," said Moench, who started attending the church's school in the first grade in 1914. The school shut down in 1946. "When I was growing up we heard sermons in both English and German."

Moench attended Rose-Hulman, graduating in 1929. He retired from a 56-year career there last year. Meyer described the church's architecture as "German Gothic" featuring a tall pointed roof and numerous buttresses. Gothic architecture is distinguished by a ribbed vaulted ceiling, fine woodwork and buttresses, which are wall-strengthening structures. The local German church has all those attributes.

"See our corner stone here," said Meyer, "it's written in German." The pastor said the local Germans were frugal — they paid for the church within a year after its construction.

The inside of the church features 17 stained glass windows and a large painting near the front altar of Christ and St. Peter walking on the water. "The painting is by Schoenherr and was painted in 1887 in Dresden, Germany, for our church," explained the minister. The large painting is encased in a fancy walnut frame.

The pulpit is also wooden and intricate and has a now-rare wooden canopy. There's a large pipe organ in one end of the choir loft that has 25 ranks of pipes. Lisa Tate has been organist at the church for a number of years.

"There are so many wooden things in our church that would be just too hard and expensive to duplicate," Meyer said, standing next to an intricate, winding, oak staircase leading to the choir loft.

The Woman's Society of the church has been going strong since it was founded in 1880. "This is the oldest Lutheran woman's organization in the state," explained member Helene Roberts. She said the group exists for fellowship and to help the needy in various ways.

The Snyder home

The Snyder home is an imposing, dark-red stone structure located on a corner lot in the near-south side of town.

"We've been going to apply to get our place on the National Register of Historic Places," Snyder said. "But you know how easy it is to put off paper work."

The place is quaintly Victorian throughout, with the Romanesque aspect found in the front porch arch work. The Snyders lived in Europe for more than a decade and began collecting furniture which now stands in their home. "We've decorated the house from furniture we collected from 13 countries," Mrs. Snyder said.

The first floor features a music room with a grand piano, and a living room with large, curved, leaded-glass windows complete with padded window seats. "The family that had the house built in 1897 used to hire musicians to come in for chamber music," she said.

Also on the first floor are a formal dining room, a kitchen with butcher pantry and a glassed-in porch.

The second floor contains five bedrooms, an upstairs parlor, a second glassed-in porch and three bathrooms. The third floor has another bedroom and a large bathroom with a theatrical closet.

"They used to put on plays there," she said. "The grand piano has been in this house since 1910." The house was built by the Aitken family of Terre Haute from a fortune acquired in the coal business.

"We bought the house almost nine years ago," said Snyder, a retired Army personnel worker. He is currently employed by the Indiana Veteran's Employment Service. "We're the first ones to own it outside the Aitken family."

The house has a full basement with six rooms. "I'm fixing one of those rooms as a shop," he said. One of the rooms will become a laundry room, another a bar room. She's an artist whose works fill many walls in the home.

The Snyders say there is plenty of room for all four residents. The other two residents are their daughter, Flynn, and a Himalayan cat, Miss Pitty Pat.

The place has four fireplaces and a dumb waiter that goes from the basement to the third floor. There are pneumatic tubes you can talk through from the first to second floors.

The master bedroom has buttons once used to call for maid service in various rooms of the house.

"There's also a button under the dining room table they used to ring for maid service," he said.

"I was raised in a big old house and I just like them," said Snyder, who grew up in Knox County. "In my view they're tearing down the old houses and building boxes."

Both of them believe older houses have more character and personality than modern ones. "We don't know of another house like this in Terre Haute," he said.

Terre Haute First

The Terre Haute First National is the city's oldest bank, having provided the community with more than 150 years of service.

"It's a real pretty building to work in," said Donna Ellinger, assistant cashier and assistant banking center manager. "A number of people who come in here think it used to be a church."

The place has a church-like atmosphere because of two things — an arched ceiling and seven murals high on the walls painted by Italian-born artist Vincent Aderante.

The oil-on-canvas murals — among the largest ever undertaken at the time — were painted in New York City in 1927 and brought to Terre Haute. The seven paintings depict the symbolic characteristics of banking. They were painted larger than life, but appear life-size from the floor 40 feet below.

One mural shows transportation, while others are on industry, factories, thrift, produce, trust and mining.

The building was constructed in 1894 using the services of a Chicago architect. Construction was supervised by a professor from what is now Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology.

According to records at the Vigo County Public Library, from 1894 until 1903 the building was the Charles H. Seeman Cigar and Tobacco Manufacturers. It was sold to the U. S. Trust Company in 1904.

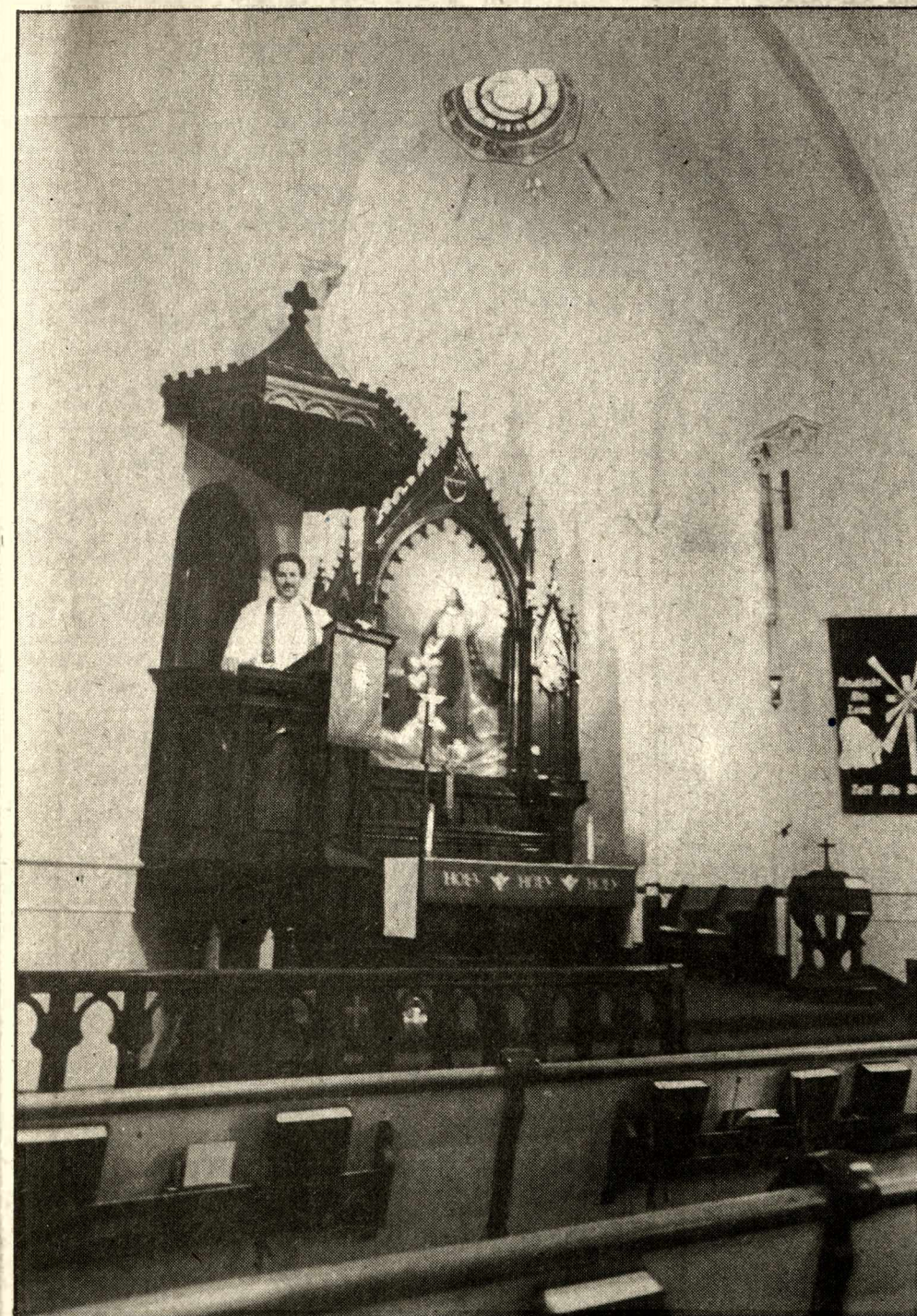
Terre Haute First traces its beginning to 1834 and is the 47th oldest bank in the United States. It is one of the original members of the National Banking System established in 1863. The bank didn't move into its beautiful downtown quarters until June of 1928. "However, it didn't take its current name until 1932," said local attorney W. N. Cox, who retired from the bank's board of directors this past July after 51 years of service.

The bank will move out of the historic structure early next year when it moves into its large new building next door. "We don't know exactly what will happen," Cox said about the bank's current buildings downtown, "but they certainly won't be destroyed and made into parking lots."

Cox said the attractive building with all the murals may become the office of the local Chamber of Commerce and the Alliance for Growth and Progress. But that is still an open issue, he added.



Window seat: Dick Snyder relaxes in his old Terre Haute home, built in 1897.



Sanctuary: The Rev. Philip Meyer in pulpit at Immanuel Lutheran Church.

Historic Landmark (T.H.)
Theater future topic

Theaters (T.H.)
T OCT 18 1980

The future of the Indiana Theater was the topic Friday when a group of civic leaders gathered at the request of the Terre Haute Area Chamber of Commerce.

Meeting in the rotunda of the downtown landmark, the group heard Chamber president, Ross Hedges, discuss the current status of the property.

He reported United Artists, owner of the theater, had offered it to Indiana State University several months ago as part of a plan to deed the building to a non-profit organization for tax purposes. Hedges said the university would only accept the theater if an interested community group would assume responsibility for it within a brief time.

An annual budget of \$75,000 is necessary to operate the facility and its preservation would require a large community effort, according to Hedges.

The history, architectural significance and proposed use of the theater were outlined for the group by Dorothy Clark, Dr. Harriet Caplow and Alane Meis.

The building was constructed by the John A. Shumacher Co. for T. H. Barhydt, in 1920 and 1921 and was opened to the public in 1922.

Indiana Theater

The building is "architecturally the most interesting building in Terre Haute" with the rotunda and the exterior detail considered a "masterpiece" of their type, according to Dr. Caplow.

Use of the building as a performing arts center was advocated by Mrs. Meis, president of Arts Illiana.

Income could be realized from the leasing of the former Mutual Savings office, attached to the property, and offices presently located on the Seventh Street and Ohio Street sides of the building.

According to Mrs. Meis, any non-profit organization may accept the building from United Artists and obtain the tax write-off for the donor.

If no artistic group can arrange to preserve the theater, the city government reportedly has expressed an interest in obtaining the building to accommodate some of the offices and businesses which would be dislocated by the proposed downtown development project. Any long-range plans by the city, however, have not been discussed.

Reports indicate the structure may eventually fall to the wrecking ball if steps are not taken to preserve the building as a community landmark.

Community Affairs File

Vigo County Public Library

REFERENCE
DO NOT CIRCULATE

Indiana Theatre

United Artists Willing To Donate Indiana Theatre Building To Non-Profit Group

Theaters (TH)
Historic Landmarks (TH)

S OCT 18 1980

By LIZ CIANCONE
Star Staff Writer

Civic leaders met Friday afternoon at the "promenade" of the Indiana Theatre under the auspices of the Terre Haute Area Chamber of Commerce to discuss the future of the downtown landmark.

According to Ross Hedges, president of the chamber, United Artists, owners of the building, offered the building to Indiana State University "two or three months ago." UA is interested in deeding the building to a non-profit group as a tax write off, but ISU is apparently not interested in accepting the building for its own use. Hedges said, however, ISU President Richard G. Landini had indicated the university would accept the gift "if it could be turned over within a brief period to an interested group."

Hedges said the building presently demands an annual budget of approximately \$75,000 in operating costs and added that if the building is to be preserved as an historic and civic landmark it will require "broad-based community effort and commitment."

Others speaking to the civic representatives attending the session were Mrs. Dorothy Clark, Dr. Harriet Caplow and Mrs. Alane Meis. They presented the local leaders with information concerning the history, architectural significance of the building and proposed uses of the structure in the future.

The building was constructed by the John A. Shumacher Co. for T. H. Barhydt, "Mr. Theater of Terre Haute," in 1920-21 and was opened to the public in 1922.

Little, if any, expense was spared. John Everson, the nation's leading theater architect, was commissioned to design the building which is "almost pure 17th century Spanish baroque." All work was done on the premises during the construction period, including the elaborate plaster detail. Oriental carpeting was installed and originally there were 3,000 electric light bulbs twinkling on the marquee and on a peacock which originally topped the building at the entry. This was later removed, according to Mrs. Clark, because the bird is considered an "unlucky" omen in theater circles.

Dr. Caplow characterized the building as "architecturally the most interesting building in Terre Haute" with the rotunda and the exterior detail considered a "masterpiece" of their type.

The tile walls and floor in the rotunda are original as is the rotunda chandelier—although the latter has been lowered. Further, the building is "in amazingly good condition."

Mrs. Meis, president of Arts Illiana, discussed proposed and possible use for the building. Since it contains 1,600 seats and is equipped with both heat and air conditioning, year-round use by a variety of groups could be anticipated.

She advocated as the "best" immediate use, a performing arts center, not only because such a use would preserve the purpose of the building, but also because it is "ready to use" for that end. Major pop events with important professional talent, miscellaneous special events of a local nature, local performing and arts groups, state-funded touring groups, classic or "unique" films,

children's events and exhibits have all been suggested as possible and suitable for the structure. Income can be realized from the former Mutual Savings office—attached to the property—as well as other offices presently located on the Seventh Street and Ohio Street sides of the building.

According to Mrs. Meis, any non-profit organization may accept the building from United Artists and obtain the tax write-off for the donor and, if no artistic group or groups can generate the local enthusiasm to con-

tinue and preserve the theater, the city government has expressed an interest in obtaining the building. The understanding is it could be used to accomodate some of the offices and businesses which would be dislocated by the proposed downtown development project.

Any long-range plans by the city, however, have not been discussed. It is feared that the structure may eventually fall to the wrecking ball if steps are not taken to preserve the building as a community landmark.

Community Affairs File

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Vigo County Public Library

INDIANA BELL - 665 OHIO

Old Indiana Bell Building Being Razed

DEC 24 1971

The old Indiana Bell building, 665 Ohio St., is being demolished to make way for a new parking lot and loading area for the American Telephone and Telegraph Co. (AT&T), 663 Ohio St., is was announced Friday.

G. R. Groves is operations manager of AT&T here, while ~~Lee~~ Groves is operations supervisor.

Groves said the old Indiana Bell building has been used in recent years to keep long distance telephone equipment. AT&T stopped using the building about three months ago when the new addition to its building was completed.

In the past the building housed all of Indiana Bell's long distance operators in Terre Haute. That was before General Telephone took over that aspect of telephone service here, Groves said.

A contract was let to Haley Brothers to demolish the building. The demolishing of the building has attracted the attention of many "sidewalk superintendents" in recent days.

Community Affairs File

VIGO COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA

REFERENCE
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Paris landmarks to be renovated for area senior citizens

By Denise Egan

Tribune-Star Correspondent

PARIS, Ill. — Construction on the Kensington-Paris senior residential living center is expected to get under way in early fall with opening anticipated later this winter.

Originally centered around the former Hotel France just east of the Paris square, the project has since been expanded to include the former Elks, Moose Lodge and Rex apartment buildings. The Moose building will be demolished to provide parking while the remaining structures will be remodeled for housing, dining and recreational purposes.

Although some renovations have begun under the direction of Executive Director John Hollis, major work by general contractor Charles Jared of Art Reese Lumber Company will begin by Oct. 1.

Plans awaiting final approval by the Paris City Council also call for a landscaped central park area between the buildings.

The developers have requested the city vacate the alley between the buildings for construction of a connecting brick tower which will house an elevator and stairway. The Paris City Council is expected to approve the request in early September. Building permit approval will also then be sought.

Hollis said the Hotel France, to be opened first in early January, will provide 42 single and suite units. A dining room, food service, nurse's office and lower level services such as barber and beautician will be located in this building.

Housekeeping services will be available, if desired.

Once completed, the complex will house 90 residents.

The Kensington-Paris is being developed by Rappaport Companies, Inc. of Minneapolis. Rappaport was founded in 1980 for the development of landmark properties designed to fill the special needs of older people unable to live independently.

Rappaport has applied for placement of the new Paris facility in the National Register of Historic Places.

Vigo County Public Library

Community Affairs File

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Artists' renderings: The former Hotel France (right) and the former Rex apartments (left) will be connected by a canopied walkway to make up part of the Kensington-Paris senior citizens housing complex. The former Elks building is behind the Hotel France.

Historic Landmarks (T.H.)
Community Affairs File
S JUL 26 1972



DEATH OF ANOTHER LANDMARK — Demolition crews have begun razing the former Knights of Columbus Clubhouse at the corner of Ninth and Ohio Streets. The local K of C council abandoned the building more than a year ago when the new club rooms were completed in the old Standard Food Store building at Ninth and Poplar Streets. No plans have been announced for the site once the building is removed. (Photo by Kadel)

Old K. of C.

Community Affairs File

Clubhouse

Sold Here

JUN 1 1972
Landmark K. of C. (T.H.)

T JUN 1 1972

The old Knights of Columbus Clubhouse at 9th and Ohio Sts. was recently sold to the Pennsylvania Eastern Terminals, Inc., for an undisclosed amount of money, it was announced Thursday.

Herman Becker, president of Becker Real Estate Corp., handled the transaction.

It has been discussed as a possible site for a parking lot, but no definite plans have been announced for the site.

The Knights of Columbus moved into the 9th and Ohio building in 1907 and stayed there until the completion of a new clubhouse at 9th and Poplar Sts. in 1971.

The K. of C. has a 60-day

period after May 22 to remove any articles the group would like to save before the demolition begins.

"We would like to have an auction to sell some of the things if we have time," said K. of C. Grand Knight Jim Roach.

Landmark *Historic Landmarks* Battle Over Academy

KNIGHTSTOWN, Ind. (AP) — The Knightstown school board president calls the 113-year-old red brick Academy School "deteriorating."

Mortar is loose in many areas. The windows need paint and caulking. The metal mansard roof trim, gutters and downspouts are rusted and loose.

But in the eyes of the president of the Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana, the same structure is "one of the finest, if not the finest, remaining Second Empire style of institutional building in the state."

Its metal globe and telescope mounted on twin 40-foot towers are unique. It is one of three buildings in Henry County on the National Historic Register. It is one of the longest continually operating school buildings in the country.

School board politics in this community of 25,000 have often taken up the question of whether the school is worth renovating at taxpayers' expense.

Last summer, the Charles A. Beard School Board decided to abandon the building and construct a new elementary school across the street for kindergarten through grade 6.

"It is a difficult decision and not something you do matter-of-factly," said board president Robert L. Weimar, who attended Academy School and whose mother still teaches there.

REFERENCE
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Community Affairs File

Vigo County Public Library

KRIETENSTEIN GLASS & PAINT CO.

4th + CHERRY

THE TERRE HAUTE STAR, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 1969

T.H. Historic Landmarks



SIGNS OF THE TIMES—The Krienstein Glass & Paint Co. building at Fourth and Cherry Streets is being demolished to make way for urban renewal. The building was a landmark in the area. (Photo by Kadel.)

VIGO COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA

Community Affairs File

REFERENCE
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DEC 8 1983

Community Affairs File

Labor to labor over Labor Temple

Historic Landmarks (TH)

The 79-year-old Labor Temple, 201 S. Fifth St., will get a facelift Saturday, when volunteers from 52 area unions begin cleaning and renovating the three-story building for the first time in 22 years.

"It needs it desperately," Connie Knight, Temple press secretary said.

New carpeting and replastering and refinishing of walls are planned for the major project in the Samuel Gompers meeting hall on the first floor.

All 22 rooms in the labor temple, most of which are rented as office space, will be cleaned. Lighting fixtures and hallway carpeting eventually will be replaced and storm windows installed throughout the building, Knight said.

Antiques and memorabilia of Socialist labor leader Eugene V. Debs discovered during a recent attic and closet cleaning will be displayed in the second-floor meeting hall.

Satin labor pennants and old union charters found packed away in closets will be preserved in glass cases in the Gompers room.


Renovation and decorating costs for the second-floor meeting room will be underwritten by the Eugene V. Debs Foundation. Future plans include painting murals on the meeting-room walls, Knight said.

Sandblasting of the building and other outside work is planned for the spring.

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Vigo County Public Library

Liberty Bell



TERRE HAUTE **First** NATIONAL BANK

introduces you to . . .

Historical Landmarks
LIBERTY BELL *(WV)*

Ts OCT 02 1987

When the final gun sounds, ending the North-South football game at Memorial Stadium tonight, a growing prestigious tradition will accompany the winner. The replica of the Liberty Bell is the prized possession of the school that captures the annual battle. The Bell is one of only 2,000 cast when they were made by I. T. Verdin Company of Cincinnati, Ohio in 1973. The Liberty Bells were designed for promotion in conjunction with the nation's Bi-Centennial in 1976.

Terre Haute First National Bank purchased Liberty Bell #71 in May 1973 and presented it to North and South High Schools as a traveling trophy for their annual football game. Originally, the Bell was presented by the Bank at the game but now the school that wins the game transports the Bell home on a trailer and keeps the Bell on display until the following year. The day of the game the school in possession of the Bell takes the Bell to the Stadium. Each school has a trailer to transport the bell.

The Bell itself is about 18 inches high. There is a wooden yoke on top. This is all mounted on a base which increases the total height to about three feet. Including the base, the Bell weighs about 200 pounds. A permanent record of the dates and scores of all the games played are engraved on the base of the Bell.

Incidentally, South leads the series 12-4 as tonight's game marks the 17th regular season meeting between the two schools. This game will be the 15th game with the Bell. The first two games of the series were played before the Bell was purchased.

The Bell cracked last year and would no longer ring. It was shipped to the manufacturer in Cincinnati. They sent a display model known as Bell #180 that will now serve as the Trophy. Tonight will be that Bell's inaugural game.

The Liberty Bell Game brings back memories of years gone by when Wiley and Garfield staged the Turkey Day Games on Thanksgiving afternoons. The Bell plays a key role in the new tradition of the North-South rivalry.

REFERENCE
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Vigo County Public Library
Community Affairs File

Century-old building restored

Work helps school pass test of time

By Denise Egan 2 4 1988
Tribune-Star Correspondent

MARTINSVILLE, Ill. — A 100-year-old brick schoolhouse which has stood empty and silent for nearly 40 years will come to life again today after an 18-month restoration project.

The one-room Lincoln School will be the site of an open house and dedication at 2 p.m. today. A reception will follow in the Masonic Hall.

Lynn Kelley, chairman of history and restoration, directed the Martinsville Chamber of Commerce project which began in January 1987. Extensive structural work — including a new roof, brick repair, floor, ceiling and wall renovation — was funded with nearly \$26,000 raised from private sources.

Kelley said the little school operated until 1950, when four new schools were built in Martinsville. While records are sketchy as to when Lincoln School was built, trustee notes dating back to 1843 indicate that a frame school first stood on the site. That building was replaced with the brick structure.

Bricks for Lincoln School were made along a creek bed a quarter mile east of the school by builder Henry Gallatin.

The school had about 30 students in 1900 but only eight when it closed. Early school records state that during the 1840s, students attended school in three month sessions — one in mid-summer and two during the winter. They assisted with planting and harvesting of the crops in the spring and fall, Kelley said.

Male teachers were paid about \$42 per month and women were paid \$18.

"Most of the school furnishings

come from other one-room schools in Clark and Crawford counties," Kelley said. She said the recitation bench, slates, seats and books would represent school furnishings reminiscent of the 1900s. Among authentic Lincoln School trappings are the teacher's platform and about half of the floor joists. The rest succumbed to termites.

Electricity — the only concession to modern times — was installed to allow evening use of the building.

Kelley said restoration would be complete once the school obtains three more student desks having iron framework and

folding seats.

Restoration was begun at the urging of Tressie Morgan Nale-Povic, who lives in Florida, Kelley said. The former Martinsville resident said her family attended the Lincoln schoolhouse and she taught there one year to earn money to further her education. Nale-Povic was a major contributor to the project.

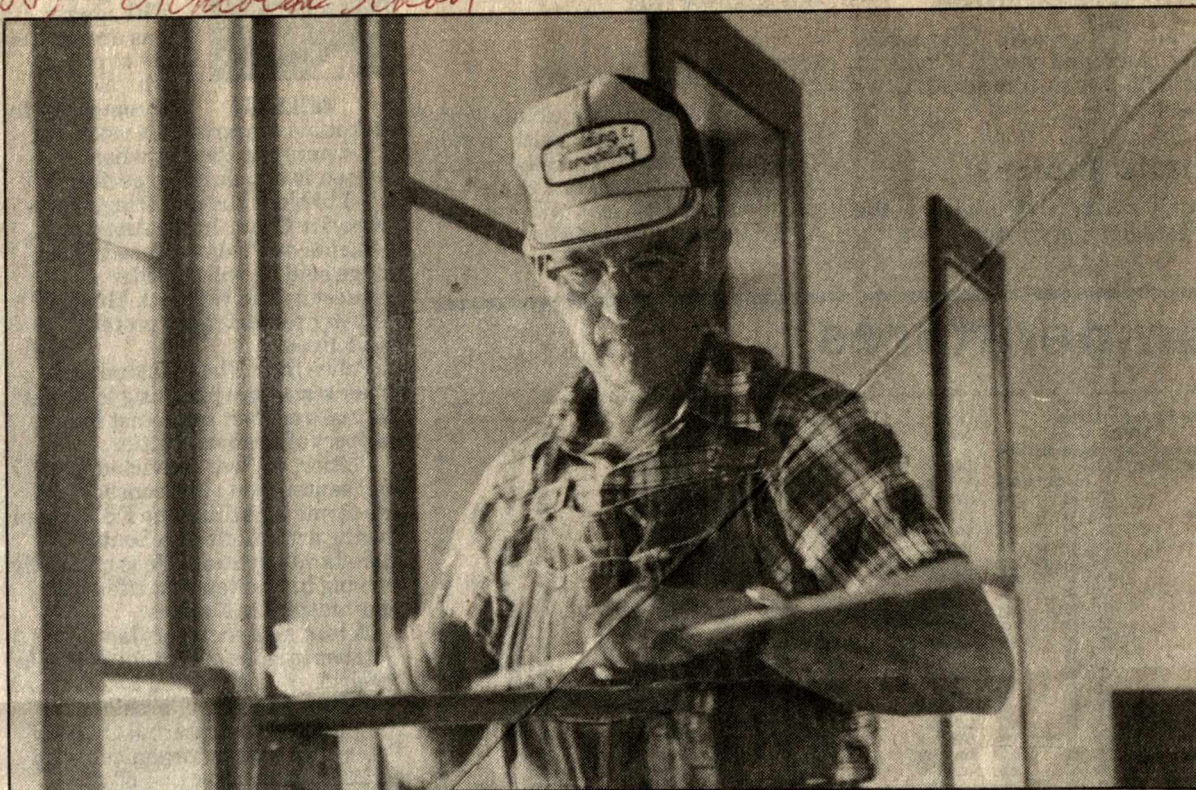
Identification of some of the oldest class pictures was eased through the incredible memory of another Lincoln School graduate, Kelley said. Dove Bloodworth, 97 and living in California, began attending the school at age 4. When she learned about the

restoration project, she eagerly offered her services at identifying other graduates.

Kelley, herself a teacher, said the Chamber is encouraging area teachers to bring classes to the school to experience local history. The schoolhouse will be heated with a pot-bellied stove during the winter months.

The building will maintain regular hours from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday and 1 to 4 p.m. Sunday. There is an admission fee.

Lincoln School is one-fourth mile north of the Interstate 70 exit to Martinsville.



Tribune-Star/Paul Hightower

School work: Duane Smith completes work on a window at renovated Lincoln School.

Vigo County Public Library

Community Affairs File

REFERENCE
DO NOT CIRCULATE

August, 1908, Recalled

JUN 18 1974

Copper Pythian Temple Cornerstone Box Opened

By DOROTHY J. CLARK
Tribune Woman's Editor

It was a proud day for the Knights of Pythias when they marched from their meeting rooms at Castle Hall, 22½ S. 6th St., to the cornerstone laying ceremonies at their new building, the Pythian Temple at 121 S. 8th St.

The big event occurred Sunday, August 30, 1908, and less than 66 years later, the building was to be razed for expansion and parking for the Teamsters Local Union No. 144 building at the northwest corner of 8th and Walnut streets.

Over the years the building had served many purposes — as Reid Mariatt's Dancing School, and most recently as the Salvation Army headquarters.

The old copper cornerstone box had been chiseled open and a Knight's Jewel and an 1829 Bible donated by W. J. Steiman had disappeared according to the inventory list found in the papers.

The box contained By-Laws of Occidental Lodge No. 18, Oriental Lodge No. 81, Paul Revere Lodge No. 374, Past Chancellors Association No. 1, Fidelity Temple Pythian Sisters No. 8, and Hyacinth Temple Pythian Sisters No. 349.

There was a copy of the cornerstone laying ceremony, lists of members, a copy of Grand Lodge proceedings for 1907, a bound copy of the Terre Haute City Council Minutes for 1907-08, and copies of The Terre Haute Tribune, The Terre Haute Star, the Terre Haute Post and Satur-

day Spectator, all carrying stories of the event.

State and national dignitaries were present at the ceremony. Dr. M. R. Combs acted as parade marshal. The principal address was delivered by Samuel K. Duvall, of Terre Haute. Music was furnished by the City Band.

The building committee was composed of George C. Dodson, Joseph G. Elder and H. E. Bindley, of Lodge No. 18, and James L. Price, Orville E. Fox and James H. Caldwell, of Lodge No. 81. They had chosen

M. C. Miller as the architect, and The Modern Construction Company as the builders.

In 1908, membership of the lodges totalled well over a thousand men. With the auxiliaries and their large membership, it is evident why a new lodge hall was needed.

Before the days of health insurance and labor union's health and accident benefits, the Knights of Pythias served a real need. Any member whose dues were paid could receive weekly financial benefits and allowance for "nurse hire" if he became sick or disabled. Nurses were paid \$1.50 per day or night in those days!

Upon his death, death benefits and funeral expenses would be paid to his widow or family. They even furnished a granite slab to be placed on his grave.

The Knights undertook the responsibility of seeing to it that needy widows and orphans of former members were taken care of, and that the children were properly schooled and taught to learn a trade or profession.

Another landmark is gone from downtown Terre Haute, but its history will be preserved at the Historical Museum, 1411 S. 6th St.



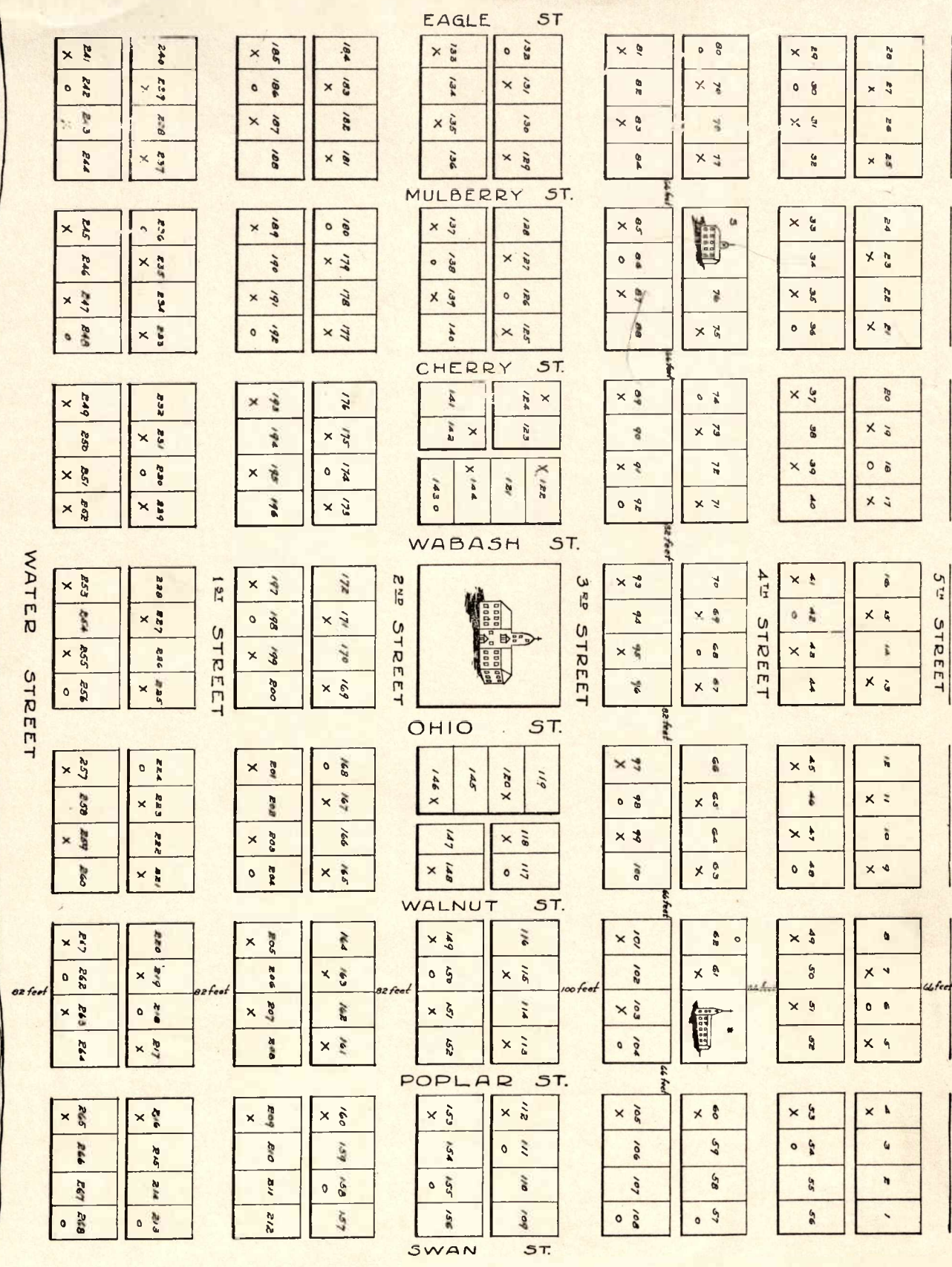
AFTER COMPLETION of the razing of the former Knights of Pythias Temple, 121 S. 8th St., the copper cornerstone box and contents was presented to the Vigo County Historical Society by the members of Teamsters Local Union No. 144. Shown examining the old papers and documents is George L. Hanks, Teamsters president. Photo by Strausburg.

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Community Affairs File

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TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA

Terre Haute - History 1816-183



OLD TERRE HAUTE

The above plat of the original town of Terre Haute was filed for record October 25, 1816 at Vincennes, Knox County. The original entry of the land was made by Joseph Kitchell, September 13-14, 1816, at the United States land office in Vincennes. Joseph Kitchell later sold his interest to Cuthbert and Thomas Builett, Jonathan Lindley, Hyacinth LaSalle and Abram Markle. These men organized the Terre Haute Company. The present location of the town as the County sent was made March 21, 1818. The original plat from which this was drawn is now in the possession of the William Markle family, at the old Markle Homestead.